

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
450 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

**RICHARD W. WIEKING**  
Clerk of the Court

(415) 522-2015

January 3, 2008

To: **Jeanne M. Franken**  
U.S. Depart of Justice  
Torts Branch, Civil Division  
450 Golden Gate Ave., Room 7-5395  
P.O. Box 36028  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Patricia E. Byrne**  
Office of Chief Counsel  
Maritime Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, SW, Room 7313  
Washington, DC 20530

Re: USA v. Tackel, Apparel, Furnishings, et al. - C07-6162 BZ


Dear Counsel:

At filing, this matter was randomly assigned to United States Magistrate Judge Bernard Zimmerman. A hearing has since been scheduled for March 31, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. To allow the hearing to proceed as scheduled, pursuant to U.S.C. 28 §636©, each party must consent to, or decline to proceed before, Judge Zimmerman. We have no record of your decision.

At [www.cand.uscourts.gov](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov) you will find a form to complete if you consent to proceed before Judge Zimmerman and a form to complete if you decline. A party is free to withhold consent without adverse consequences. Please complete and electronically file the appropriate form within five days.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Wieking, Clerk  
United States District Court

  
By: Lashanda Scott  
Courtroom Deputy